Silt Fence or Filter Fabric Fence

Temporary linear sediment barrier composed of permeable fabric designed to intercept and slow sediment-laden storm water.

What to Inspect

- ☐ Is there sediment accumulating behind the silt fence?
  - Sediment must be removed once it has reached one-third the barrier height.
- ☐ Is the silt fence properly installed?
  - Silt fences must be entrenched in a 6-inch x 6-inch trench and be backfilled and compacted.
  - Silt fence must overlapped 6 inches between adjoining segments or overlapped, wrapped, and rolled.
- ☐ Is there evidence of undermining or undercutting?
  - Silt fences must be replaced/reinstalled if undermining or undercutting occurs.
- ☐ Are adjoining segments seamless?
- ☐ Does silt fence have rips, tears, or degradation of fabric?
- ☐ Are stakes on downgreadient side?
- ☐ Is fabric securely attached to the stakes?
- ☐ Is silt fence installed on steep slope?
- ☐ Are the ends of the silt fence turned uphill?

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Flattened and damaged silt fences do not have the capability to pool storm water runoff, causing sediment-laden storm water to leave the site.



Routine maintenance is needed to ensure the silte fence is effective in allowing storm water to pool and sedimentation to occur.



Failure to properly trench in the silt fence will cause undercutting and allow unfiltered storm water to leave the project area.



Properly installed silt fences are trenched in a 6-inch deep by 6-inch wide trench, backfilled, and compacted.